ZODIAC

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(ZNS) A MARYLAND PRIVATE INVESTIGATOR HAS RELEASED PREVIOUSLY-CLASSIFIED F.B.I. REPORTS WHICH HE SAYS DESTROY THE GOVERNMENT'S CONTENTION THAT JAMES EARL RAY ASSASSINATED DOCTOR MARTIN LUTHER KING.

THE INVESTIGATOR, HAROLD WEISBERG, OBTAINED THE DOCUMENTS UNDER PROVISIONS OF THE FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT.

ONE F.B.I. REPORT, ACCORDING TO WEISBERG, PROVES THAT KING'S ASSASSIN DID NOT FIRE THE FATAL BULLET FROM THE WINDOW OF A MEMPHIS ROOMING HOUSE. THE MEMPHIS POLICE AND THE F.B.I. HAVE CLAIMED FOR THE PAST SEVEN YEARS THAT RAY FIRED THE MURDER WEAPON FROM THE SECOND STORY WINDOW OF A DOWNTOWN FLOP HOUSE.

HOWEVER, THE DOCUMENTS RELEASED BY WEISBERG SHOW THAT THE F.B.I. WAS UNABLE TO FIND ANY PHYSICAL EVIDENCE THAT A RIFLE HAD BEEN FIRED FROM THE ALLEGED SNIPER'S WINDOW.

THE REPORTS STATE THAT THE F.B.I. LAB FOUND NO EVIDENCE OF GUN-POWDER IN OR AROUND THE WINDOW SILL; AND THAT INVESTIGATORS COULD FIND NO TRACES OF PAINT, WOOD OR SCRATCHES ON THE BARREL OF THE ALLEGED MURDER RIFLE THAT WOULD LINK IT TO THE SECOND-STORY ROOM.

WEISBERG SUGGESTS THAT RAY'S RIFLE WAS PLANTED BY UNKNOWN CONSPIRATORS IN FRONT OF THE ROOMING HOUSE TO IMPLICATE RAY WHILE THE ACTUAL ASSASSIN FIRED AT KING FROM A LOCATION OUTSIDE THE ROOMING HOUSE.

WEISBERG ALSO ALLEGES THAT THE JUSTICE DEPARTMENT'S RECENTLY-ANNOUNCED "REINVESTIGATION" OF THE KING KILLING IS A "SHAM." HE CHARGES THAT THE AGENCIES CONDUCTING THE NEW PROBE ARE THE VERY SAME ONES WHICH COVERED UP ALL EVIDENCE OF A CONSPIRACY BACK IN 1968 -- ZODIAC

Note: Weisberg's number is (301) 473-8186.

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